

[illegible]

During the recent revolutions in the Papal States our Chargé d'Affaires at Rome has been unable to

assent his letter of credence, which, indeed, he was directed by my predecessor to withhold until he should receive further orders. Such was the unsettled condition of things in those States, that it was not deemed expedient to give him any instructions on the subject.

presenting his credentials to the committee, and with which he had been furnished by the late administration, until the 25th of June last; when, in con-

quence of the want of accurate information of the actual state of things, at that distance from us, he was instructed to exercise his own discretion in presenting himself to the then existing government, if, in his judgment, sufficiently stable, or if not, to await the

events. Since that period, Rome has undergone a further revolution, and he abides the establishment

With the republic of Mexico, it is our true policy to cultivate friendly relations. Since the ratification of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, notwithstanding the fact that the treaty has been the occasion of a serious character to disturb them, the faithful observance of the treaty, and a sincere respect for her rights, cannot fail to secure the lasting confidence and friendship of the Mexican people. On the 15th of February last, communicating in compliance with a resolution of that body, a copy of a paper called the "Protocol," signed at Queretaro on the 30th of May, 1854, by the commissioners of the United States and Mexico, and the ratification of the Mexican Government, which has been the subject of correspondence between the Department of State and the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that republic seated in this government, a transcript of that correspondence

The Commissioner on the part of the United States for marking the boundary between the two republics.

though delayed in reaching San Diego by unforeseen storms, arrived a short period after the time required by the treaty. The vessel was then ordered to proceed to the port of Mexico. They entered upon their destination, at the date of the latest intelligence from that quarter, some progress had been made in the survey. The expenses incident to the organization of the expedition, and to its execution, have been considerable, and it is believed that there have so much reduced the appropriation by Congress, that a further sum to cover the charges which must be incurred during the present fiscal year, will be necessary.

The great length of frontier along which the border is to be surveyed, and the numerous obstacles to the difficulty of obtaining supplies, except at certain points, render it necessary to make the most judicious use of the means at hand, and to avoid the extremes of the line, render it also imperative that a liberal provision should be made to meet the necessary charges during the fiscal year ending on the 30th of September. Accordingly the recommendation is submitted for your consideration.

In the adjustment of the claims of American citizens on Mexico, provided for by the late treaty, the com-

most of counsel, on the part of the Government, become important for the purpose of assisting the missionaries in protecting the interests of the United States. I recommend this subject to the early and favorable consideration of Congress.

Complaints have been made in regard to the efficiency of the means provided by the Government

mission of the New Grenada for transporting the United States mail across the Isthmus of Panama, pursuant to Postal convention with that republic of the

March, 1844. Our Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá were directed to make such representations to the Government of New Grenada, as will, it is hoped, lead to a prompt removal of the cause of complaint.

The sanguinary civil war with which the Republic of Venezuela has for some time past been ravaged, has been brought to a close. In its progress, the rights of our citizens resident or trading there have been violated. The restoration of order will afford the Venezuelan government an opportunity to examine and redress these grievances and others of longer date.

which our representatives at Caracas have, hitherto ineffectually urged upon the attention of the government.

ment. The extension of the coast of the United States to the Pacific and the unexampled rapidity with which the inhabitants of California, especially, are increasing in numbers, have imparted new consequences to the relations of our country upon that ocean. It is probable that the interests between those countries and our possessions on that quarter, particularly with the Republic of Mexico, will be in a more advantageous position as California and Oregon shall increase in population and wealth. It is desirable, therefore, that the United States should endeavor to foster and strengthen its relations with those States, and that the spirit of unity between us should be mutual and cordial.

It is the observance of the same course towards all other American States. The United States stand as the great American power to which, as mutual ally and friend, they will always be inclined to look for aid and support in the event of any collision between them and any European nation.

tion. As such, we may kindly mediate in their
without entangling ourselves in foreign wars or
controversies. Whenever the faith of our

A Convention has been negotiated with Brazil providing for the satisfaction of American claims against that government, and it will be submitted to the Senate. Since the last session of Congress, we have received from Envoys Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiaries that Empire, similar relations with Africa are upon their feet.

Your attention is earnestly invited to an assessment of our existing laws to the African slave trade, in view to the effective suppression of that barbarous traffic. It is not too late, that the trade

in part, carried on by means of vessels built in the United States, and owned or chartered by some of our citizens. The Government will assist the Depart-

State and the Minister, and Consul of the United States at Rio de Janeiro, which has from time to time laid before Congress, represents that it is a custom before to evade the penalties of our laws by procuring a passport, furnished to Brazil, and then to issue such papers by the means of the Consul of the United States for a new register, proceed, at the Cape of Good Hope, to the Cape of Africa, for the purpose of obtaining one of slaves.

Additional information, of the same character has recently been transmitted to the Department.

It has not been considered the policy of our Government to subject an American citizen, who, in a foreign country, purchases a vessel built in the United States, to the penalty of sending her home for the purpose of performing the voyage.

Alteration of the laws, which might have a tendency

impede the free transfer of property, in vessels be-
longing to our citizens, or the free navigation of those vessels
between different parts of the world, when such

lawful commerce should be well and cautiously considered; but I trust that your wisdom will direct that by which our general policy, in this respect, is best preserved, and at the same time the national flag and our sea-letters, in the manner in which they may be prevented.

Having ascertained that there is no prospect of reunion of the five States of Central America, I have separately composed the Republic of that section, and have separately negotiated with some of the trust and amity companies, which will hold the land for the State.

A contract having been concluded with the State of Nicaragua, by a company composed of American agents, but which is not yet signed, I shall

through the territory of that State, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, I have directed the ne-

ference in the highly distracted and Hungary. The latter might faint that my duty, in the American Magyar patri- cy of the es-

ment, to be
into the fam-
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an agent, should the great maritime States of Europe consider this arrangement, (and we have no reason to suppose that a proposition so fair and honorable will be opposed by any,) the energy of their people and ours will

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